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COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 14 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the attached statement issued on 12 May 1998 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in response to the underground nuclear tests conducted by India on 11 May 1998.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 64 and 71, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volodymyr YEL'CHENKO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ukraine to the United Nations

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ANNEX

Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on 12 May 1998

On 11 May 1998, India conducted three underground nuclear tests.

This event has aroused profound concern in Ukraine as it undermines the moratorium on nuclear testing which the States of the world have been observing for a long time.

Our State, whose people have experienced the terrible consequences of radiation exposure, believes that none of the defence or security considerations of any country can justify the resumption of nuclear testing.

Ukraine, which voluntarily renounced it arsenal - the world's third largest - of nuclear weapons and refrained from nuclear testing, condemns this act of India which constitutes a threat to existing international agreements in the field of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Ukraine calls upon the Governments of India and other States to cooperate more actively in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and towards the final prohibition of nuclear weapons.